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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-170

The AMSAT News Service bulletins are a free, weekly news and information service of AMSAT, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS publishes news related to Amateur Radio in Space including reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

The news feed on http://www.amsat.org publishes news of Amateur Radio in Space as soon as our volunteers can post it.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to: ans-editor [at] amsat.org

You can sign up for free e-mail delivery of the AMSAT News Service Bulletins via the ANS List; to join this list see: https://mailman.amsat.org/postorius/lists/ans.amsat.org/

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DATE 2022 June 19

AMSAT Announces Candidates for 2022 Board of Directors Election

The nomination period for the 2022 Board of Directors Election ended on June 15th. The following candidates have been nominated:

Mark Hammond, N8MH
Bruce Paige, KK5DO
Paul Stoetzer, N8HM

As three seats on the Board of Directors are up for election this year, all three candidates will be seated on the Board when the voting period concludes on September 15th. To comply with AMSAT's bylaws an election will be held via AMSAT's Wild Apricot membership system. Instructions for voting will be emailed to all members in good standing as of July 1st by July 15th. Biographies of the candidates will be published in the next issue of The AMSAT Journal.

[ANS thanks Paul Stoetzer, N8HM, AMSAT Executive Vice President and Acting Secretary, for the above information]

40th Annual AMSAT Space Symposium and General Meeting Announced for October 21 - 22, 2022

AMSAT announces the 40th Annual AMSAT Space Symposium and General Meeting will be held on Friday through Saturday, October 21 - 22, 2022 in Bloomington, Minnesota.

The annual AMSAT Space Symposium features:
* Space Symposium with Amateur Satellite Presentations

* Operating Techniques, News, & Plans from the Amateur Satellite World
* Board of Directors Meeting open to AMSAT members
* Opportunities to Meet Board Members and Officers
* AMSAT Annual General Membership Meeting
* Auction, Annual Banquet, Keynote Speaker and Door Prizes !!

The Crowne Plaza Suites, 3 Appletree Square, Bloomington, MN, is centrally located between the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport, Mall of America, Minneapolis Zoo, and Nickelodeon Universe Theme Park. Crown Plaza Suites provides a complimentary scheduled shuttle to and from the airport.

Additional information about the 2022 AMSAT Symposium will be posted on the AMSAT web site, www.amsat.org as it becomes available.

[ANS thanks Robert Bankston, KE4AL, AMSAT President for the above information.]

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This year should be as easy as last year since we have more than 10 transponders and repeaters available. Users should check the AMSAT status page at http://www.amsat.org/status/ and the pages at https://www.amsat.org/two-way-satellites/ for what is available in the weeks leading up to field day. To reduce the amount of time to research each satellite, see the current FM satellite table at https://www.amsat.org/fm-satellite-frequency-summary/ and the current linear satellite table at https://www.amsat.org/linear-satellite-frequency-summary/

If you are considering ONLY the FM voice satellites, there are ISS, SO-50, AO-91, PO-101 and possibly LilacSat. It might be easier this year to make that one FM contact for the ARRL bonus points with so many FM birds. The congestion on FM LEO satellites is always so intense that we must continue to limit their use to one-QSO-per-FM-satellite. This includes the International Space Station. You will be allowed one QSO if the ISS is operating Voice.

It was suggested during past field days that a control station be allowed to coordinate contacts on the FM satellites. There is nothing in the rules that would prohibit this. This is nothing more than a single station working multiple QSO’s. If a station were to act as a control station and give QSO’s to every other field day station, the control station would still only be allowed to turn in one QSO per FM satellite while the other station would be able to submit one QSO.

The format for the message exchange on the ISS or other digital packet satellite is an unproto packet to the other station (3-way exchange required) with all the same information as normally exchanged for ARRL Field Day,

e.g.:

W6NWG de KK5DO 2A STX

KK5DO de W6NWG QSL 5A SDG

W6NWG de KK5DO QSL

If you have worked the satellites on Field Day in recent years, you may have noticed a lot of good contacts can be made on some of the less-populated, low-earth-orbit satellites like FO-29, AO-7, EO-88 or the XW satellites. During Field Day the transponders come alive like 20 meters on a weekend. The good news is that the transponders on these satellites will support multiple simultaneous contacts. The bad news is that you can’t use FM, just low duty-cycle modes like SSB and CW.
More information may be found at https://bit.ly/39nefgb. Rules in downloadable format: https://bit.ly/3QpJc44. The fillable scoresheet is included in the Rules download.

[ANS thanks Bruce Paige, KK5DO, AMSAT Director of Contests & Awards for the above information]

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Contact is go for: Wed 2022-06-22 16:27:15 UTC 61 deg

The latest information on the operation mode can be found at
https://www.ariss.org/current-status-of-iss-stations.html

The latest list of frequencies in use can be found at https://www.ariss.org/contact-the-iss.html

[ANS thanks Charlie Sufana, AJ9N, one of the ARISS operation team mentors for the above information]

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ISS Status as of June 14, 2022
Columbus Module radios:

IORS (Kenwood D710GA) – STATUS - Configured. Default mode is for cross band repeater (145.990 MHz up {PL 67} & 437.800 MHz down). Capable of supporting USOS scheduled voice contacts, packet and voice repeater ops.

Service Module radios:

IORS (Kenwood D710GA) – STATUS - Not Active. Default mode is for packet operations (145.825 MHz up & down) Capable of supporting ROS scheduled voice contacts, packet, SSTV and voice repeater ops.

[ANS thanks Paul Overn, KE0PBR, AMSAT rover page manager and ARISS.org for the above information]

Changes to AMSAT-NA TLE Distribution for Jun 16, 2022

The following satellite has been added to this week's AMSAT-NA TLE distribution:

Planetum 1 NORAD Cat ID 52738 (Thanks to Nico Janssen, PA0DLO for identification).

The following satellite has decayed from orbit and has been removed from this week's AMSAT-NA TLE distribution:

RSP-01 NORAD Cat ID 47925 (decayed form orbit on 6/10/2022 per Space-Track).

[ANS thanks Ray Hoad, WA5QGD, AMSAT Orbital Elements Manager, for the above information]

Hamfests, Conventions, Maker Faires, and Other Events

AMSAT Ambassadors provide presentations, demonstrate communicating through amateur satellites, and host information tables at club meetings, hamfests, conventions, maker faires, and other events.

AMSAT Ambassador Schedules:

Clint Bradford, K6CLS: “How to Work the “Easy” Satellites” talks:

That felt GOOD!

My first in-person satellite presentation since March 13, 2020 … the day California shut down.

The K6PIN club in Southern California maintains a great Yaesu System Fusion C4FM linked repeater system. Their meetings have been at the Sizzler restaurant in Fullerton, CA. As presenters usually do, I was the first to arrive, and got my system set up before the doors opened. Screen, projector, posters, banners, speakers …

Well-attended and it felt marvelous. We had a great time. I knew many members from my days with Motorola commercial and Ham Radio Outlet-Anaheim.

Think a lively, informative session on “working the easy satellites with equipment most hams already own” would be appropriate for your event or meeting? Call or email!

Clint Bradford K6LCS
AMSAT Ambassador
909-999-SATS
http://www.work-sat.com

Jack Spitznagel, KD4IZ: SDR applications - "Using the RF “Swiss Army Knife”: An intro to the AMSAT Fox-In-A-Box Image" - Live presentation scheduled July 18, 2022 the Frederick Amateur Radio Club, Frederick, MD

For information on this presentation and availability, contact Jack Spitznagel, KD4IZ, AMSAT Ambassador, (kd4iz at arrl dot org)

Scheduled Events with AMSAT involvement:

Hamfests and Conventions

+ JAMSAT Symposium
  June 25 from 9:50~17:15 JST (UTC +9 hours).
  Anyone can participate. If you would like to participate, please email ja3nas at gmail.com to be informed of the opening URL. Please include your name, call sign and email address in your email.

+ QO-100 User Meeting HAM RADIO 2022 in Friedrichshafen, Germany
  Saturday, June 25, 2022 starting at 7pm CEST
  QO-100 users plan to meet at a restaurant near HAM RADIO on Saturday. Link to registration/reservation: https://nuudel.digitalcourage.de/gRajeEEUKrJLvXK9.

+ 2022 Rocky Mountain ARRL Division Convention
  October 7, 2022 - October 9, 2022
  Event Center at Archer
  3921 Archer Pkwy
  Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007
  https://wyhamcon.org/site.

[ANS thanks Paul Overn, KE0PBR, AMSAT Events Page Manager, for the above information]

Satellite Shorts From All Over

+ An Astra rocket carrying two small hurricane-tracking satellites for NASA failed to reach orbit Sunday (June 12) after a major malfunction shortly after liftoff. Two NASA cubesats, the first of a six-satellite fleet to track hurricanes as part of a $30 million mission, were lost. (ANS thanks space.com for the above information)

+ SpaceX has launched more than 2,000 Starlink internet satellites since 2019, and the company plans to orbit thousands more in the near future. Astronomers are concerned that these megaconstellations of bright spacecraft will seriously interfere with celestial observations for professionals and amateurs alike. In order to address the problem, SpaceX voluntarily began installing sunshades on their Starlink satellites two years ago. But now, new technological requirements have resulted in visors being omitted from a new generation of Starlink satellites launched since late last year. The newest satellites use laser communication instead of radio links; while the sunshades were transparent to radio frequencies, they block laser light. (ANS thanks Sky and Telescope for the above information)

+ The first full-color images from the James Webb Space Telescope will be released during a televised broadcast beginning at 10:30 a.m. EDT on Tuesday, July 12, from NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. Live coverage of the image release broadcast will air on NASA TV, the NASA app, and the agency’s website. The public also can watch live on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Twitch, and Daily Motion. Webb, an international collaboration led by NASA with its partners the European Space Agency and the Canadian Space Agency, is the biggest telescope ever launched into space. It will probe the origins of our universe and our place in it. (ANS thanks NASA for the above information)

+ Sierra Space announced Tuesday the company will open an astronaut training center at Florida's Kennedy Space Center to build and operate a new commercial space station. The Sierra Space Human Spaceflight Center and Astronaut Training Academy will train astronauts to work on Orbital Reef, a private business park space station.(ANS thanks Sheri Walsh of spacedaily.com for the above information)

+ Astronaut Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, has been active from the ISS this week. It is great to see the ISS radio active for individual contacts. W8LR, KG4AKV, W3ATN and others have tweeted or emailed their success in making the QSO. ARISS made note of the contacts on twitter.(ANS thanks ARISS for the above information)

+ The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has determined that SpaceX’s plans for the company’s

massive Starbase launch site in South Texas will have some environmental impact on the surrounding land and area – but not enough to require a full environmental impact statement. Now, SpaceX will need to make more than 75 changes to its proposal for the Starbase facility if the company wants to avoid additional review and eventually receive a license from the FAA to launch its new Starship rocket to orbit from the site. More information at: https://bit.ly/3NXCEI1 (ANS thanks Loren Grush of theverge.com for the above information)

Join AMSAT today at https://launch.amsat.org/

In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership to:

* Societies (a recognized group, clubs or organization).
* Primary and secondary school students are eligible for membership at one-half the standard yearly rate.
* Post-secondary school students enrolled in at least half time status shall be eligible for the student rate for a maximum of 6 post-secondary years in this status.
* Memberships are available for annual and lifetime terms.

Contact info [at] amsat.org for additional membership information.

73 and remember to help Keep Amateur Radio in Space!

This week's ANS Editor, Jack Spitznagel, KD4IZ
kd4iz at arrl dot org